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tirely are not hard to beat. The opposition is always wise to the style of attack that will be used, and consequently is always prepared to break up the play. To depend almost entirely on one style of play is practically suicidal. It would be about equivalent to a football team revealing its signals to its rivals. Also sacrifice clubs as a rule are one-run-an-inning teams. Most teams prefer to take chances and get the runs in bunches. I have often seen pitchers who knew the batsman was practically sure to bunt, throw him a ball on which he could turn that trick the easiest, and then rush in and force a runner at one of the bases. The trick works in a majority of cases.

It is the team that is constantly "mixing them up" that gets the best results. Much of the success of the Washington club last year was due to the style of play adopted by Griffith. He had his players doing things. They were running wild on the bases, always looking for a chance to slip over a delayed steal, and working the hit and run overtime. Also they were stealing bases with good judgment, and sacrificing only when a run was absolutely needed. Washington played the style of game that produces runs in clusters, and the showing of the team last year is surely proof of the value of such a system. Griffith knew that in Eddie Foster he had one of the best men in the majors for the position at the plate on the hit and run play. Until late in August, Foster, batting second, the position usually given to the sacrifice man, had made only two sacrifice hits, and both of them were flies on which a runner scored from third.

McGRAW is a manager who believes in taking chances, in doing things on the bases, and in constantly "mixing them up." The success of teams managed by him is the best proof in the world of the value of his style. A manager who fathers such a system will come in for a lot of praise, and on the other hand must stand a lot of criticism. In the series of 1911 between the Athletics and the Giants a bit of McGraw's strategy was credited with being the turning point in the game that gave the Giants a victory and first blood in that baseball classic. With Snodgrass on second and one out, a ball was hit to Collins. Snodgrass was off with the pitch, and reached third almost as soon as the ball got to Collins. Eddie fumbled the ball. McGraw, quick to take advantage of the slip, waved Snodgrass to come home. Collins recovered and made a hurried throw to Thomas at the plate; but Snodgrass scored. The Giants won that game, two to

In one of the games between the Giants and the Red Sox last fall a play very similar came up under almost identically the same conditions. Fletcher was on second when the batter hit a ball directly over second that looked like a sure hit. Steve Yerkes made a wonderful one-hand stab of the ball, and it threw him entirely off his balance. McGraw took this in at a glance, realized Yerkes would have to make a wonderful throw to get Fletcher at the plate, and sent him home. Yerkes proved equal to the occasion by making a beautiful throw that easily retired Fletcher. That was called bad coaching; but if Fletcher had scored and the Giants had won McGraw would have been heralded as the hero.

Connie Mack, like McGraw, is always doing what the other fellows don't expect. In 1911 it was said that he would not start Bender against Matty in the opening game. But that is just what Mack did, and no pitcher ever lost a game that was a harder one to lose. Besides, Bender forced Matty to such an extent that he practically put him out of commission for the rest of the series. It was figured that Mack would use Plank against Matty, because Plank hits a right hander fairly well, and would thus in-crease the team's batting strength. But Mack started Plank against Marquard. When everybody was figuring Bender out of the running, because of the belief that he needed more than a day's rest, Mack sent him right back against the Giants in the deciding game, and he won.

THE UNDISCOVERED INTERIOR A MAGAZINE editor recently returned a story to an aspiring contributor.

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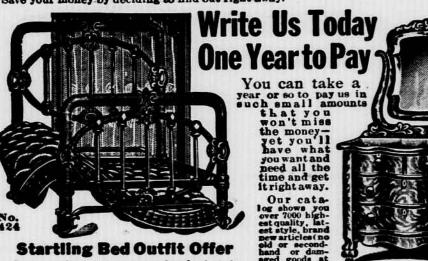
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